FREE INDIA

35th Year Of Publication ★ July 21, 1974 ★ 20 Paise

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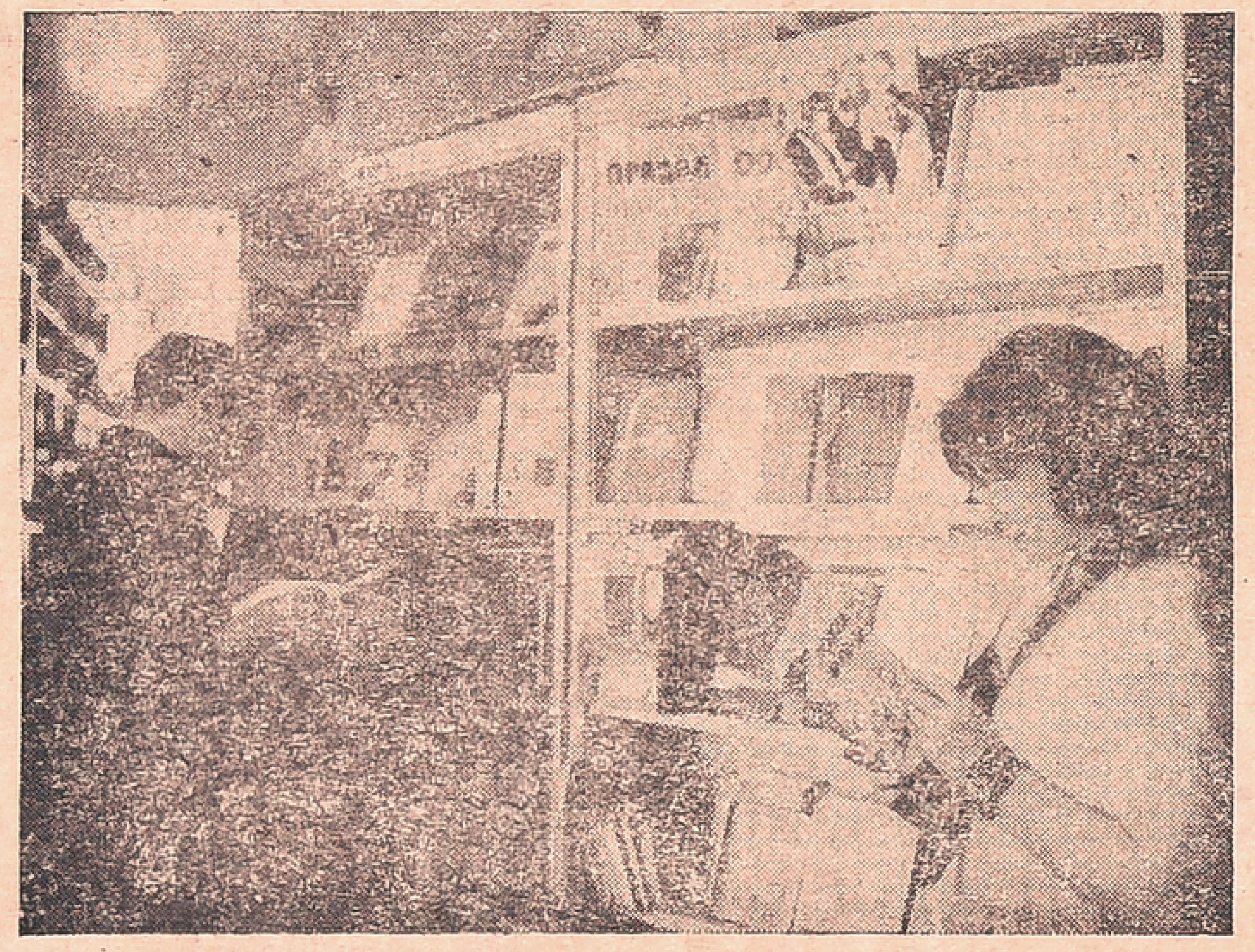
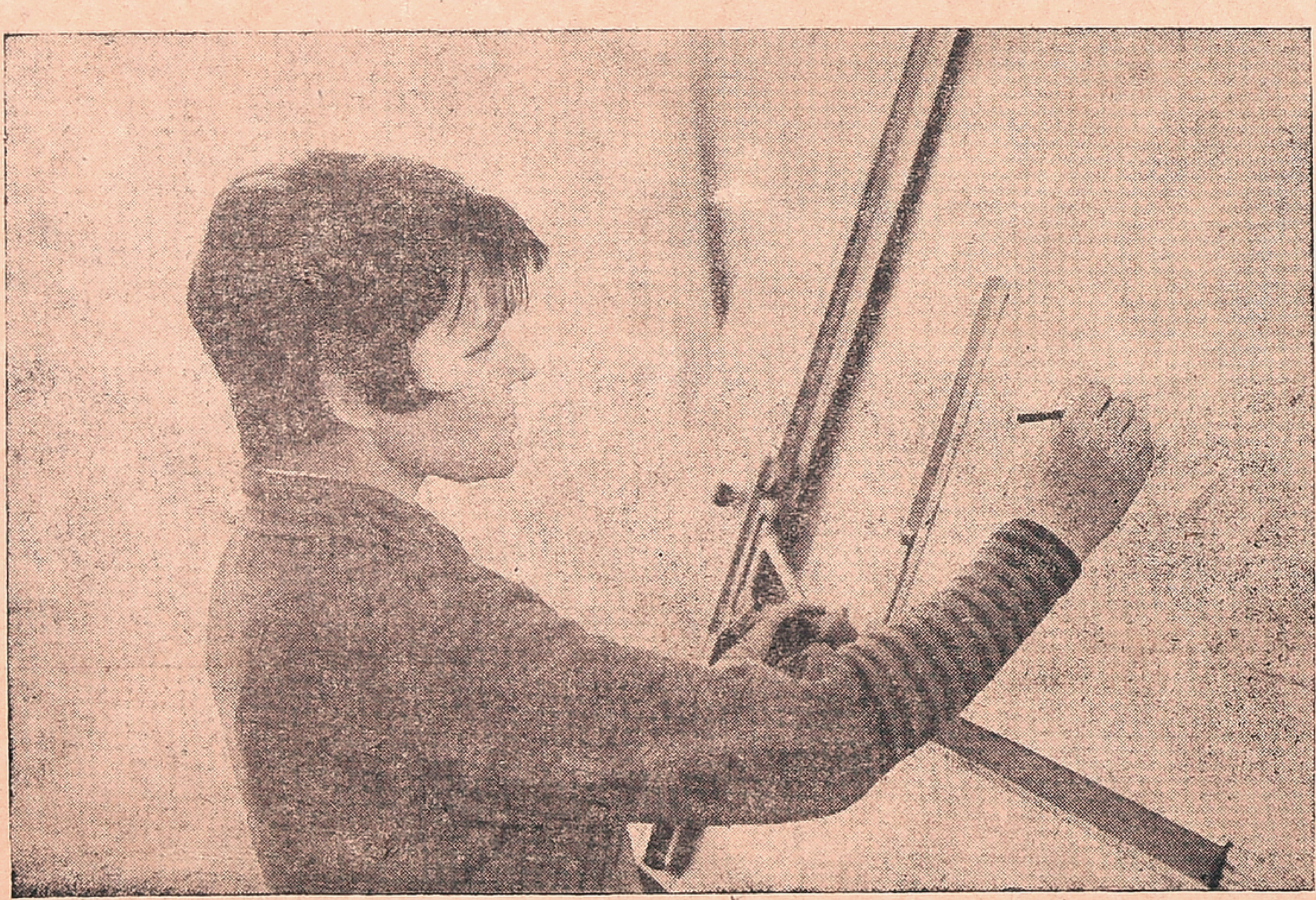
SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY

The assembling conveyor of oil-pressure gauges which are exported to India.



The factory library has many books by Indian authors.



Valentina Karhu, a design-engineer.

Hi-Fi Instruments

By Y. IVANOVA

"Yes, indeed, our products go to India, too," said Adolf Peterson, head of the AVTOELEKTROPRIBOR experts' bureau of the sales department.

The avtoelektropribor is a factory producing electrical accessories in Riga, the capital of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic, which is a comparatively small republic on the north—western border of the Soviet Union.

The avtoelektropribor has links with some 2,000 enterprises including the Chelyabinsk Tractor Works and the K e-menchug Automobile Works. All the vehicles rolling off the production lines of these enterprises are fitted with speedometers, accumulators, ammeters, oil pressure gauges and pick-ups from avtoelektropribor and the majority of these plants export their products to a dozen or more countries, including India.

"Have a look at these for instance," Adolf Peterson opened a file of orders from Soviet export agencies and pulled out a big bunch showing those from Gissco, Bombay, India, for tractor pressure gauges, flexible shafts, fuel gaues, etc.

"All these orders are dated January" he said, "and I'll tell you something—we got three times as many orders in the first week of Janury this year as

(Contd. on page 11)

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The Fight Against Inflation

What The Ordinances Seek To Achieve

The common man in our country—be he a wage earner, a shop keeper or a producer—has been battling continuously with rising prices for some years now. In his every day life he finds the price of every commodity going up from month to month He buys cooking oil or vegetables or cloth or any consumer article and finds that its price is rising from what it was just a month or so before. He is baffled by this. He is hard put to understand why it should be so. In modern economic terms this is described as inflation—a period of rising prices.

Inflation can be caused mainly on two counts: (1) by a large reduction in the availability of consumer articles; and (2) when more people with money want to buy goods whose supplies had not increased correspondingly.

WHAT IS INFLATION?

As every one knows, in India there were partially bad agricultural seasons during the last two or three years. A bad agricultural season means not only less of food articles like rice, wheat, maize etc. but also less of oilseeds, less of cotton, less of so many other things produced in our agricultural sector. Coupled with this, during these last few years there has been a considerable increase in the quantity of money that is available with the people for the purchase of goods required by them. A part of this is due to the fact that the Governments—both at the Centre and in the States—had had to spend more than what they had collected as revenue. This is called Governmental deficit. The reasons why the Government had to spend more are various. We had to fight a war. There were droughts and other nature calamaties. All this meant that Government had to spend more to finance war, to distribute relief in time, during natural calamities, irrespective of the fact whether there were corres ponding revenue receipts or not. For these and many other reasons, there has been an increase in the amount of money that is available with the people. Therefore, we had had, for some years now, a situation wherein there has been a reduction in the availability of essential commodities of consumption, accompanied by the availability of more money in the hands of the people When there are more people who have the money to buy things which are not in plentiful supply, the immediate result is that their prices go up. This is so in the case of every article of consumption, whether it be food, cooking oil, pulses, soap, cloth or any other consumption article. It is this phenomenon that is commonly referred to as inflation.

ITS RATE

The rate of inflation is judged primarily by what is called the index of price levels. The wholesale price index rose by 10 per cent in 1972-73. In the next year 1973-74 this rose by 23 per cent. The rise in the wholesale price index for the month of April 1974 alone was still more. It was nearly 29 per cent compared to what it was in 1973. While it may not be easy to fellow the complicated mechanism involved in the calculation of the wholesale price index, even the bare figures given above should provide some clue about the rate at which price levels have been galloping. Although inflation of this kind has been with us for quite some time, it is obvious that its degree has now acquired disturbingly serious proportions.

HOW TO COMBAT?

One obvious and sure method of tackling inflation (i.e the phenomenon of continual rising prices) is to step up production, specially of what are called wage goods i.e. common articles of consumption which wage earners generally buy. But over a short span stepping up of production may not be feasible, specially is this so when nature continues to be non-cooperative and there are failures of monsoons with all their attendant results like fall in the production of agricultural and commercial crops, power supply etc.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

Therefore, in the short run inflation is generally fought by means of equitable distribution of available essential articles. Temporary allowances are also given to wage earners to neutralise the hardship caused by pricerise. This is what is called "dearness allowance".

Along with this, in the short run, most Governments take to what are called monetary and fiscal policies to regulate consumption. Fiscal policies generally comprise tax measures which will inhibit consumption of articles in short supply. A typical example is the last increase in the excise duty on petrol, designed primarily to curb consumption. Monetary policies generally consist of regulating the money supply in the economy. This action consists of two aspects. One is the aspect of credit policy. By this, serious curbs are imposed on the extent of bank credits that are made available to business and industry so that money supplies are not available for anti-social practices like hoarding or profiteering. Another aspect of this is a straightaway cut in the availability of money in the hands of general public.

PARTIAL IMPOUNDING OF ADDITIONAL MONEY

It is this that the Government has sought to embark upon by means of the two Ordinances promulgated last week. The first of these two ordinances seeks to defer for a year or two the additional emoluments that are likely to accrue to wage earners in the country. Such additional emoluments become available eithes through an increase in the dearness allowance payable to salaried employees or through renegotiation of wages between the employer and the employees.

(Contd. on page 9)

The Country Maid

I saw a lovely charming maid,
When I went to country side,
I pinned my look on her grace,
It angered her, to down her face.

The buxom sturdy cast her look chiding,
And like a gold idol moving,
Inside her hut, she went abrupt,
Deeply smiting my inward thought.

With hesitant mood went I, my abode,
But the glimmering face made me goad,
Hovering my soul in endless reels,
And haunting still like stopless wheels.

—*S. Arumugham*

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

I must go......with God as my only guide. He is a jealous Lord. He will allow no one to share His authority.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL-NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY July 21, 1974.

KAMARAJ

Mr. Kamaraj's birthday is being celebrated with great enthusiasm though-out Tamil Nadu.

All the leaders of various parties are vying with one another to pay tributes to the great son of Tamil Nadu at various functions.

Joining the Congress party as a volunteer, Kamaraj rose to become the President of the Party with the blessings of Jawaharlal Nehru.

A man of abundant common sense, he always made a direct approach to problems. The welfare of the poor was important to him and during his long Chief Ministership, he never oesitated to cut the red tape to help the poor.

Education was a subject dear to his heart. Free Eduction upto SSLC and mid-day meals for school children were introduced during his stewardship of the state. He believed that given the right type of education, the people would be in a position to distinguish between good and bad in public life.

Perhaps he is the only Gandhite in active politics now with a spotless record of service.

The ruling Congress is still not able to strike roots in Tamil Nadu because it doesn't enjoy the support of Kamaraj.

We join the millions in this country in appealing to him to return to the parent body and strengthen the hands of our dynamic Prime Minister in fighting the economic crisis.

Shipbuilding In India

By O. P. SABHARWAL,

Special Correspondent, India Press Agency.

There has of late been a spurt in good shipping news: the 21 800-Deadweight Tonne multipurpose bulk carrier, Jag Doot, the biggest vessel built in India, was launched from Vishakhapatnam on the 22nd of last month. Nine ships aggregating 278,000 GRT were acquired by Indian shipping companies during the month of May; and the Government of India have set the targets for developing Indian shipping—8.6 millon GRT in operation and one milion GRT in order, at the end of the Fifth Plan. These are good pointers to the fact that Indian shipping is coming into its own. And yet they pose the question: how far has the shipping industry of India to travel before it achieves the goal of becoming the principal purveyors of Indian commodities and equipment for world markets, and of garnering the vital goods and raw material which India needs from foreign lands.

This goal is indeed quite far and the journey ahead for the shipping industry shipbuilders as well as the shipping lines – is a toilsome one. Despite a thirty-fold increase since 1947, which means from one lakh tonnes to over three million GRT at present, Indian shipping carries only 20 per cent of the country's foreign trade.

STRENGTH OF SHIPPING LINES

With the latest additions to India's shipping lines, the strength of the mercantile marine of this country has been raised to 286 ships totalling about thirtyfive and a half lakh GRT. The fifth plan sets the target of 86—lakh GRT, which should enlarge the capacity of Indian shipping enough for carrying 50 per cent of the country's foreign trade. When all factors are reckoned with, these targets will not be easy to attain. They will need all the resources and concerted effort that can be mustered.

A look at the order book of Indian shipping companies at home and abroad shows that when the present orders for new shipping are executed, the total tonnage in this country will reach the level of 52 lakh GRT, which leaves a leeway of 34—lakh GRT. Where are the additional ships to come from to make up for such a big gap? Unless the orders for acquiring the additional ships are placed without further delay, delivery of these ships will not be possible. There is also the problem of rapidly escalating prices in the shipping world, What might cost one crore rupees presently will probaly double its price in another five years. Finally, there is the question of resources. The shipping industry is a capital intensive one.

The answer to India's problems in the field of shipping obviously lies in a concerted approach, which means launching a simultaneous attack on two fronts. Priority has without doubt to be given to rapidly expanding the capacity of shipbuilding in the country. But while making this the kingpin of the long-term planning on shipping, equally big as to be the immediate endeavour in developing the country's shipping lines.

DEVELOPMENT OF CAPACITY

Developing the country's shipbuilding capacity in the world of today is adding an immense capacity to the country's earning capacity. The world's major shipyards are fully occupied with orders for several years. Not only are prices of ships ordered abroad rapidly escalating, adding further strains on foreign exchange resources, but the freight charges too are going up steeply. Indian shipping has but a small say in the decisions of the world's shippers in which the big shipping lines of rich industrialised nations dominate. They find it expedient to step up freight rates on every pretext, and in contemporary world conditions such pretexts are there for the asking.

In view of the world trend of going in for bulk carriers, which are more economical to operate, India's shipbuilders have to rapidly develop their capacity for such big vessels. The launching of the Jag Doot is a happy augury in this direction. The vessel is the first of four such ships of the same tonnage being constructed by the Hidustan Shipyard for India's shipping lines. This line of construction has to be further developed.

As for the growth of India's shipping companies their performance in last few years has been promising. They have emerged on the oceanic transport scene as mature entities and held a bright prospect. But the problems which these lines face should not be underrated.

Eflorts are being made to encourage Indian shipping companies and government are considering the provision of initial depreciation allowance to the shipping companies for fresh acquisition. They will also continue development rebate on ships ordered prior to December 1973 and to be delivered before June 1975. From this year however the rebate will be abolished. No doubt, this will place a heavy premium on Indian shipping lines in the difficult assignment of acquiring more tonnage and ships fast. There is however grounds for hope that the policy-makers are aware of the difficulties that will ensure from this handicap and remedial steps may well be expected in time, to help the shipping companies, public and private, boost the Indian shipping tonnage rapidly.

—(*Courtesy*: *A. I. R.*)

Pedestrian Paradise

By

A. ARUNACHALAM

In these days of the motorised age, the risks of the pedestrians, particularly in growing Cities like Madras, are coming more and more grave. We often find news reported in the Press of city buses running over pavements, dashing against innocent passengers and killing them. This situation is a hindrance to the freedom of movement of the citizens and more so to the young children and school going boys and girls.

I came across an article published recently in a Japanese journal of a practice followed for the past few years in the streets of Tokyo, stretching over a length of about 23 kilometres, every Sunday prohibiting the movement of cars or other vehicles in those streets and setting them free for the use purely of the pedestrians. This kind of "no car" area is in vogue in the Fifth Avenue in New York for a length of about two kilometers. I have myself seen that such a rule is enforced in the busiest trading centre of Chandi Chowk in Delhi on Sundays. The steets in this locality are filled with hawkers and pedestrians on those days carrying on their business and purchases, fearlessly without having to face the danger of being run over by motor cars. It is really a sight to see the people enjoying the freedom bestowed on them to walk with ease. Anything and everything is sold in the streets. The rush of general public who are gathered to make purchases is heavy.

Every Sunday we find in the pavements between Parry's Corner and the Flower Bazaar Police Station in Madras a large number of hawkers, plying their trade, especially because the shops remain closed then. I wish that, as an experimental measure, the movement of cars is entirely prohibited on Sundays in this area and the street is allowed to be used by the hawkers to squat and carry on their trade. If this proves attractive, such "no car" restrictions on Sundays could be imposed in certain portions of Mount Road, Triplicane, T'Nagar and Mylapore. It would be a real boon which the citizens of Madras would enjoy, particulary the children.

I wish the concerned authorities would take action to bring this practice into vogue as early as possible.

———

BEST WAY

He: If we appear together too much, people will talk.

She: Let's disappear then.

Governor's Role Under Our Constitution

By K.K. SHAH, Governor Of Tamil Nadu

I am confining my address to the role of Governors under the present Constitution. I do not wish to enter into a discussion of any controversial issue and therefore what I say must be taken to refer to the office of Governor as constituted under the Constitution of India.

There are different phrases used in different articles. Sometimes it says "in the discretion of the Governor". On some occasions, the words used are "special responsibility and individual judgement of the Governor". All such words have to be ultimately divided into two categories. One will be the discretion of the Governor and the rest will be where Governor acts on the advice of the Chief Minister heading the Council of Ministers.

From my point of view, the Governor's task becomes much lighter and the constitutional position remains safer if the Governor remembers that so long as the Chief Minister maintains the majority on the floor of the House, he should, by and large, act on the advice of the Chief Minister. There may be cases like issue of an ordinance under article 213 when some caution has to be exercised. But mostly it is only when the majority is questioned or some special circumstances in the political situation sway the strength of the party unexpectedly and in an undesirable way, that the task of the Governor becomes difficult. In such circumstances, he has to use his discretion and see that the spirit of the Constitution is maintained.

There are two important articles namely, Article 174 and 356. Article 174 (2) (b) says that the Governor may, from time to time, "dissolve the Legislative Assembly". Article 356 says that "if the President, on receipt of a report from the Governor is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions on this Constitution, the President may by proclamation assume to himself all or any of the functions of the Government of the State". If these two articles are properly understood and digested in the interests of the functioning of democratic institutions, much of the misunderstanding will disappear.

Article 174 is contained in Chapter III under the heading "State Legislature". Sub-section (1) starts by saying that "the Governor shall from time to time summon the House or Houses of the Legislature". Sub-section (2) says that "the Governor may from time to time prorogue the Houses or either House" and "dissolve the Legislative Assembly". In other words, the right of dissolution can be exercised when the Governor acts in his legislative capacity and not when he acts in his executive capacity. The Chief Minister may request for dissolution to appeal to the people. Such an eventuality is easy to deal with. But there arise cases when fluctuations in the strength of the parties are so unexpected and are so contrived that a Governor has to be very vigilant and exercise utmost caution in using his discretion. If this interpretation of Article 174 is kept in mind all throughout, there is no reason why there should be at any time any misunderstanding between the Governor and the Chief Minister. It is safe to assume that the Governor in all executive functions should go by the advice of the Chief Minister. He does not execute even though execution is in his name.

But the Governor has duties which are of very great importance. Whenever constitutional propriety, administrative efficiency and smooth functioning of the Government demand, it is his duty to convey his views to the Chief Minister without in any way having a feeling about their acceptance or otherwise. In fact, he should develop an attitude of having done his duty without expecting any results. If he honestly and faithfully conveys his views in the interests of the State, I have no doubt time is bound to come when his advice will be freely sought. If his advice is not accepted, it should not worry him in the least and should not interfere with his relationship with the Government. As a representative of the Central Government, it is his duty to keep the central Government informed of developments having immediate and long-term effect. No bias or extra consideration should weigh with him. In fact, he should be a shock-absorber of momentary reaction of both the Centre and the State. To the extent he is able to judge both correctly and act wisely in creating a better climate, he succeeds. There are numerous occasions when the Governor is in a position to point out to either side what will be the reactions of other side, and the Governer enjoying the confidence of both can ensure increasingly better understanding between the State Goverment and the Centre. Whether the Government in the State belongs to the same party as in the Centre or whether it belongs to a different Party, once his concept of democratic institution is clear and his duties as constitutional head are understood, party differences make no difference to the attitude of Governers. In fact, if there are different parties in the State and at the Centre, the chances of being understood better are greater, but it is a difficult task and has to be carried out with great understanding, caution, integrity and steadfastness. Once the Governer has understood his Chief Minister and the Chief Minister has understood the Governor can be an instrument of better understanding between different parties. The democratic fibre of the functioning of the State can be strengthened by explaining to Chief Minister the legitimate aspirations of the opposition and vice-versa.

When the Constitution was framed, various vicissitudes were contemplated and various remedies were examined, sifted and ultimately decided upon and comprehensive provisions were included in the Constitution, the importance of which was not comprehended for a long time and the suitability of which was not tested because of historical reasons. After we attained freedom, leaders who had all-India fame and name and who were in their own right, leaders of the people, were Chief Ministers of States. Those leaders were very close to the Prime Minister and had worked with him for decades and had established a rapport which was very useful in resolving differences.

In the circumstances then prevailing, therefore the Governor's importance was neither felt nor was put to trial. When the new leadership came up and new parties started functioning, it was realised that the Governor would be called upon to play a very crucial role not only in resolving differences between the Centre and the States but in providing indubitable remedies in conformity with provisions of the Constitution, to complicated situations which were bound to develop politically in the State itself.

It is now universally recognised that a Governer has the unenviable task of being trusted both by the Chief Minister and the Centre. He should not only have the ability and experience but should be able to build up a reputation of integrity and honesty. Once he is able to build up reputation, difficult situations will yield equitable solutions.

During the last 25 years, we have surmounted many difficulties and each difficulty has only strengthened the fibre of our na scent democracy. It is the growing maturity of the common man which as time passes strengthens and stabilizes democratic fibre. The voter knows that wily politicians use his vote as an instrument for promoting self-interest and do not treat it as an instrument of service to him. What will provide immence satisfaction to a well-wisher of this country is the emergenee of an electorate which, though inclined to take chances and sometimes tempted by personal considerations or community affiliations, knows that is the interests of the country, and reacts so wisely and sharply that even the best brains are not able to judge how it will be swayed. A wise Governor should therefore keep close contacts with the masses and should develop ability to understand their reactions and aspirations. The accessibility of the Governor to the people at all times ensures opportunities to understand them and assess their reactions.

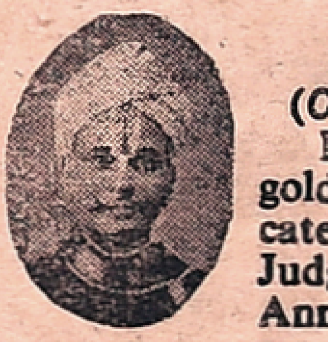
The Constitution-makers were wise in providing comprehensive but concise constitutional remedies for enabling the Governor to discharge his responsibilities without in any way either inter-

(Contd. on page 8)

Do You Know?

Meteorological Services in India

* The India Meteorological Department, one of the oldest scientific departments of the Government of India, is regarded as the most advanced meteorological service in South Asia.
* It has been rendering valuable service by giving timely warnings about cyclones, thus helping in protecting installations at ports and minimising losses. Four cyclone warning radars are functioning at Calcutta, Paradeep, Visakhapatnam and Madras.
* The Cyclone Warning Research Centre functioning at Madras is to be expanded further during the Fifth plan period.
* Plans are under-way to establish meteorological centres at State capitals for providing service to the respective States or groups of States. First such centre was set up at Srinagar.
* At present, flood meteorological offices are functioning at Delhi, Lucknow, Patna and Gauhati to help flood forecast work and Control Services. Three more Centres at Jalpaiguri, Bhubaneswar and Ahmedabad are to be set up shortly.



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FOOLED !

Billy had fallen into the bad habit of betting. In the hope of curing the boy, his father and uncle decided to make him lose by taking on any bets he proposed, which they knew they would win.

The following morning Billy met his uncle.

"I bet you sixpence you've got corns," said the boy

Uncle accepted the challenge.

"But what proof can you give?" said Billy.

"Easy," said the other. "I'll take off my shoes and socks and show that you're wrong."

Presently uncle's bare feet were exposed, and Billy gave him the sixpence.

During the morning uncle met the boy's father.

"Our scheme's fine," he said, and went on to explain how he had won sixpence from the boy. "And to prove that I was right," added the uncle, "I took off my shoes and socks and showed him my feet."

"What!" ejaculated the boy's father. "Only last night that boy bet me half-a-crown he'd see your bare feet."

SIGNIFICANCE

A pathetic and touching incident concerns the plight of a pretty North of England girl, who confesses that her choice has so far been unavailing.

While visiting a friend in London the girl was diligent in her letterwriting to the indifferent youth.

An American friend of hers was a sympathetic confidante, and used frequently to post letters for her to the frigid Northerner.

"But what," the American asked one day, "what, does 'Esq,' on the envelope after his name stand for?"

"Esquimau," was the reply.

* * *

AFRAID !

Young Private Jones slunk on to the parade ground ten minutes late.

The sergeant glared, then said, with icy sarcasm: "So you have decided to come on parade. We were afraid you had signed a separate peace!"

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FUN AND LAUGHTER

LARCENY ON A LARK

A young married couple who had just settled down in their new home got a pleasant surprise in their mail one morning—a couple of tickets to one of the best shows in town. But the donor had omitted to send his name, and for the rest of the day the question was: "Wonder who it was?"

They enjoyed the show; but when they reached home, they found that all their wedding presents had been taken. There was a note from the burglar, saying: "Now you know."

* x *

PICTURESQUE SPEECH

There was a full-length novel in her sigh......Her iron will is corroded with the acid of the years......A New England spinster grim with respectability.

The Day snailed by ......He honked his nose three times violently......I peeled off my shirt to enjoy the sum more wholehidedly......RSVP eyes......The ash can other part.

Bold as the bark of a puppy ......The cat's whiskers recently starched and laundered.

* * *

HE DIDN'T !

Hitler, it is reported, attended a big banquet to prepare which two French cooks were specially brought from France.

Before the banquet began, Goering proposed a toast: "To that genius, our Fuehrer, who sees everything, hears everything, and knows everything."

The first French cook turned to his colleague and whispered: "I bet he doesn't know I've put castor oil in his soup!"

* * *

TIME MARCHES ON!

Johnnie: "Please, sir, I'd like tomorrow afternoon off. My grandmother—"

Employer: "Oh, yes, I suppose you want to go to your grandmother's funeral ?"

Johnnie: "No, Sir. But my grandmother is going to do a parachute jump tomorrow afternoon, and I'd like to see her do it."

* * *

SNAPPING THE QUIP

Kay Francis, at a party, encountered Orry Kelly, the dress designer, and said, "I was so surprised to read that you are going into the Camouflage Division!"

"Why should you be surprised?" he replied. "I've been camouflaging *you* for years!"

* *

"There never lived a woman who did not get excited by a wedding."

Her own above all.

STERN VOICE

Jimmy, who had been climbing trees, came in for the second time with his trousers torn.

"Go upstairs and mend them yourself," ordered his harassed mother.

Some time later she went to see how he was getting on. The trousers were there, but no Jimmy.

Puzzled, she came downstairs, noticing as she returned that the cellar door, usually shut, was open. She went to the door and called down loudly and angrily: "Are you running about down there without your trousers on?"

The reply came sternly in a man's deep voice: "No madam, I'm reading the gas meter."

POLITICAL SCIENCE

A delegation from Kanasas calling upon Theodore Roosevelt at Oyster Bay, was met by the President with coat and collar off. "Ah, gentlemen," he said, mopping his brow. "I'm delighted to see you, but I'm very busy putting in my hay just now. Come down to the barn and we'll talk things over while I work."

When they reached the barn, there was no hay waiting to be thrown into the barn now., "James!" shouted the President to his hired man in the loft. "Where's that hay?"

"I'm sorry, sir," admitted James, "but I just ain't had time to throw it back since you forked it up for yesterday's delegation."

TOO EARLY !

A parson had occasion to reprove a small boy for swearing.

"If you feel you must say something just say "Brother?" he said. "Your father doesn't swear, does he?"

"Oh, no sir!"

"Well, then: if he were working in the garden and suddenly stepped backwards on to a rake which flew up and hit him from behind, what would he say?"

"He'd say: "You're back early, dear'!"

* * *

THE RETORT DISCORTEOUS

One day one of the greatest bores of the Players Club said to Oliver Herford, "Oliver, I have been grossly insulted. Just as I passed that group over there I overheard someone say he would give me $50 to resign from the club."

"Hold out for a hundred," counselled Mr. Herford, "you'll get it."

LITTLE LAUGHS

"When our first-born persisted in crying for his bottle, my mother-in-law said: "The poor little thing takes after his father." —*Man in court.*

Well, he isn't the first local lad to make a noise in the world.

* * *

For sweethearts and wives: Even though it's true that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, it doesn't mean he'll swallow anything.

* * *

"There is much indignation locally about the shortage of perambulators."

Even the babies are up in arms.

* * *

Overheard at showing of Dorothy Lamour film, after scene with giant cobra: "Aunty, are there any more caterpillars coming on?"

* * *

Singing may be beneficial in certain cases of deafness, says a doctor.

And the other way round, too!

* * *

"Barbers never cut my hair as closely as I like"

You should try sitting nearer the clippers.

* * *

French women are nice monogamic females who usually stick to one husband and one boy friend at a time.

* * *

Notice on mined area: Can your parents replace you? Go easy—Mines.

* * x

"To get on the screen you have to keep knocking."

But not at the knees.

* * *

Mixed metophor—but you've met them: Some people pat you on the back to your face and then slap your face behind your back.

* *

"An American actress has complained that another girl's legs were substituted for her own in a film."

She threatens that if this occurs again the real legs will walk out of the studio at a critical moment.

* * *

Do you think baldness in a man is caused by a parting?"

No, a departing.

* * *

Opportunities always look bigger when they've gone.

* * *

Judge: 'Can't this case be settled out of court?"

Kelly: "Sure, that's what we were trying to do, your honour, when the police interfered."

* * *

"When the ruffian demanded my money I shook my fist at him."

We cannot blame you for being shaky.

* * *

Prayer of a Scotch preacher: "Oh Lord guide us aright, for we are verra, verra determined."

Comments By Vishnu

Doctor's Hand Writing : Plea To An M.D.

The doctor is a worthy gent,
His patients claim he's heaven-sent.

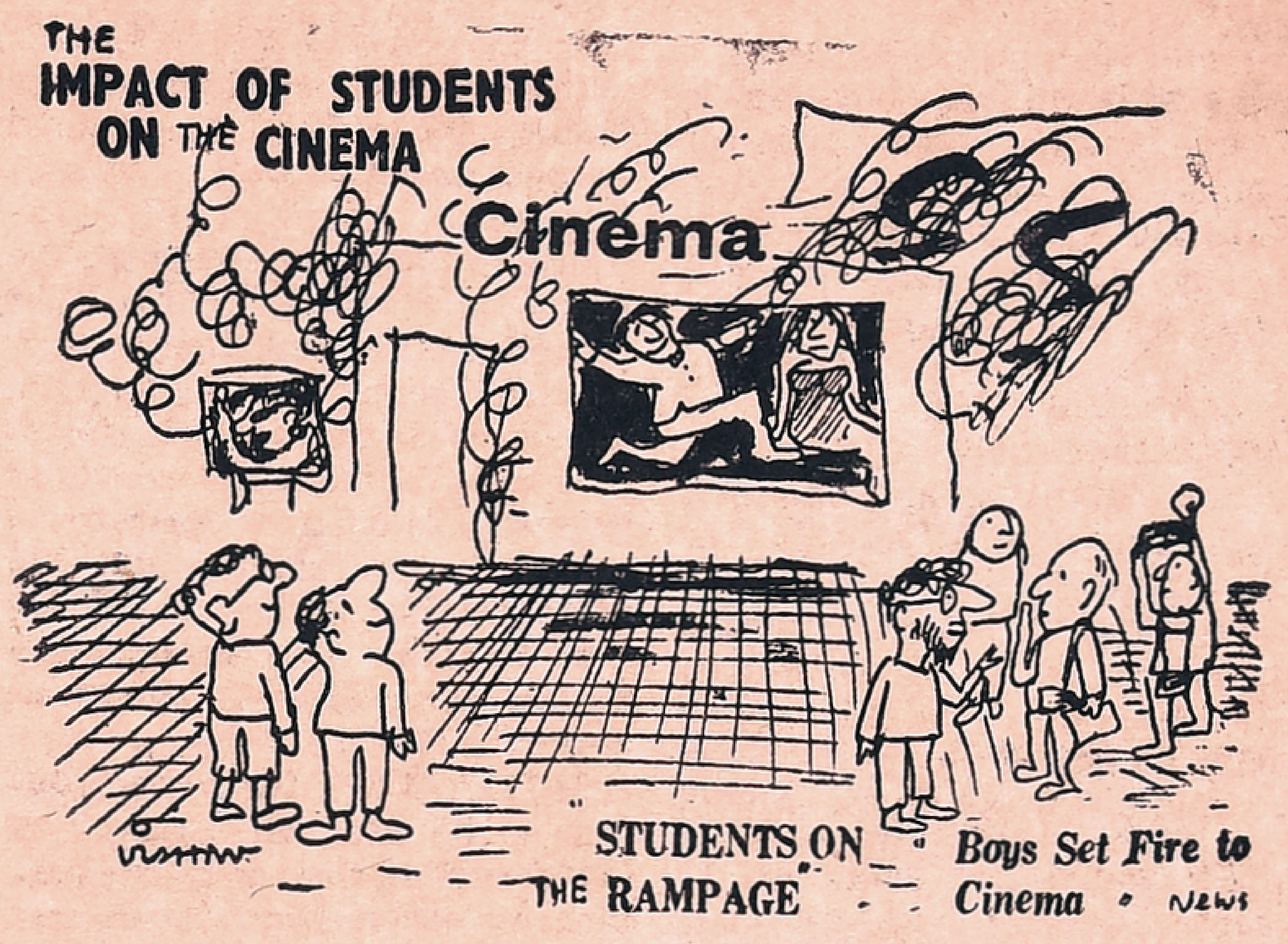
The man is knowing, erudite,
But holy cats ! He just can't write !

The surgeon's hands are deft and skilled,
The surgeon's head is *know-how* filled.
Yet why — since he's so doggone bright —
Cannot the surgeon learn to write ?

Dear Sons of old Hippocrates,
Pray hear a troubled nurse's pleas :
Remember that the gals in white
Have got to read the stuff you write !

Your physicals and histories,
Like Dead Sea scrolls are mysteries.
Your order sheets make nurses squint,
So please, dear Sirs, write right – or print !

(*—Courtesy J.A.M.A., Tonics and Sedatives*)



" The students set fire to the cinema house because the film bore little resemblance to the obscene posters displayed to advertise it..."

Hair Fetichism

Gopal was deeply in love with Geetha. He followed her around wherever she went and even helped her by carrying her heavy books to college. Then the time for parting came for Geetha had to go home to Kumbakonam for the holidays. He was in a state of great agitation and was not sure how he could remain without seeing her.

"Tell me," said Geetha, "Exactly what is it about me that attracts you ? I think it is my hair ? Is that not so?" and he nodded in assent. "It is just that in you which has completely swept me off my feet". There was hardly a few minutes more before the train was to steam out of the platform and Geetha removed her wig of long hair and gave it to him. "Keep it," she said, "and leave me in peace. I can manage without it till I buy another one." Gopal's happiness knew no bounds. He caressed the hair and kissed it and hardly noticed that the train had left : so immersed was he in the object of his love. He was supremely happy with what he had.

Of course it is silly to preach a moral but if you can isolate exactly what it is that you are in love with, then a peaceful life is possible for both even if it means a separation from the one you love !

Young Writer Thiagarajan

Since the epithet 'dynamic youth" is one generally reserved in our country for those in the seventies and are prominent in the establishment, one is diffident to use that term to describe K. Thiagarajan who is in his early twenties and in no way a part of the establishment ; yet he is the founder secretary of an active body called "The Young Writers Forum". Those who do not know his name are merely demonstrating that they are not conversant with the national publications, in a great number of which this remarkable young writer's contributions appear. He is so fully conversant with the many problems that confront the country and is also well informed. That two illuminating seminars took place in the city, one on *Population and Family Planning* and another on Inflation at which Tamil Nadu's popular Governor K. K. Shah himself participated reflects his ability at organisation. The object of the Forum is to disseminate information and create public awareness of many of the burning problems that face the country today.

Young Thiagarajan, son of an illustrious ophthalmic surgeon Dr. T. N. Kumaraswamy, had his education at Vohrees college, Vellore, taking Zoology and allied subjects for his B. Sc. degree. He holds also a Diploma in Journalism from the British Institute, Bombay.

What surprises me is that this young man, dynamic in the real sense of the word, with a bright future ahead of him in journalism, has successfully continued to remain a bachelor. Is he afraid that the muse will desert him if he takes on another for a spouse ?

On Specialization

Specialization must be grafted on to a robust rock of general medicine for like the hybrid rose, it will not thrive on its own roots. The narrow specialist whose field of vision is limited to his branch of medicine is a menace both to the profession and to the patient ; he sees disease through tinted glasses. (Professor Bramwell).

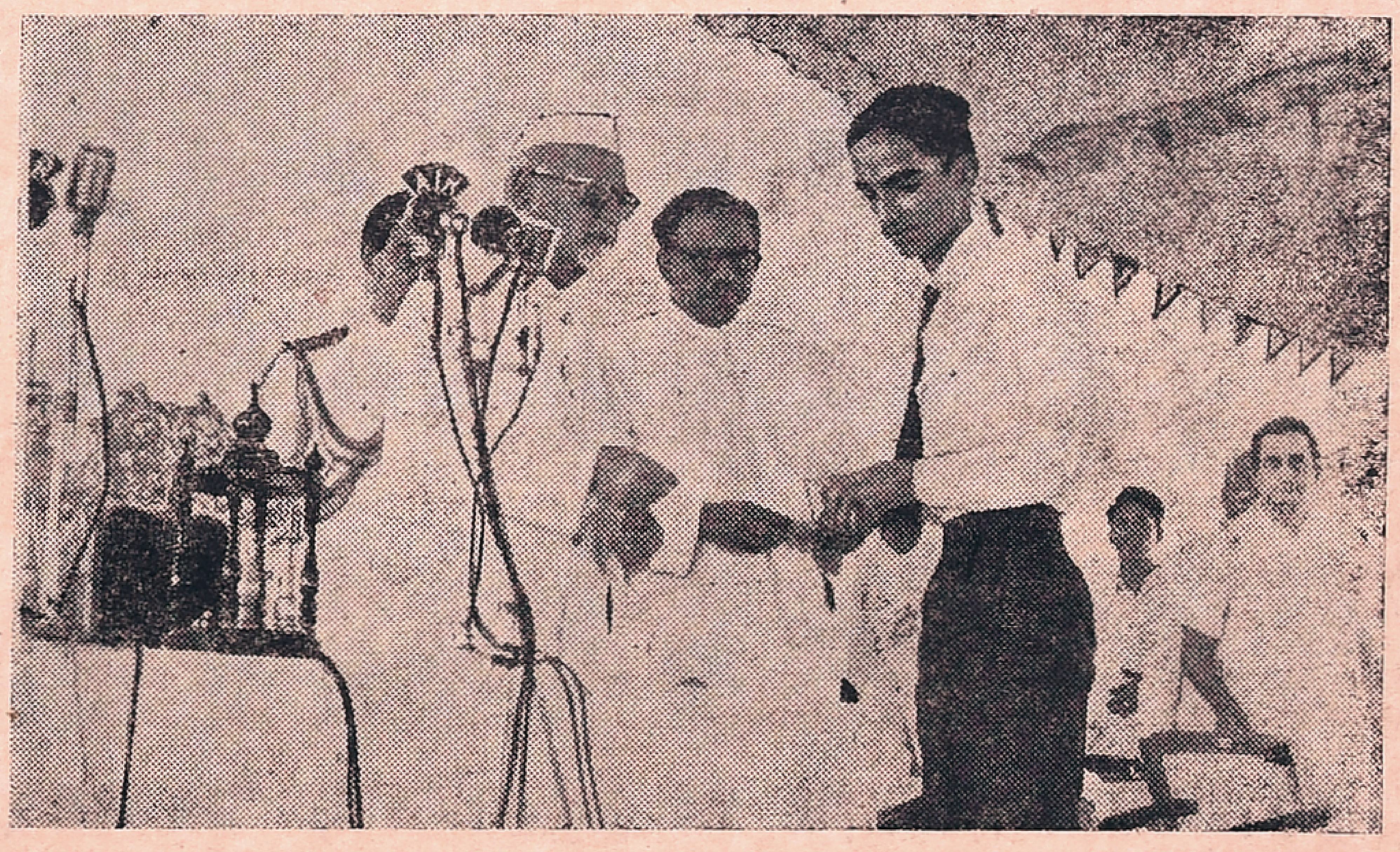
True Fish Tale

A new monument was recently unveiled at Orick, California. It is a five-ton redwood sculpture in memory of a salman nicknamed Indomitable. The monument was erected in front of the local fish hatchery. There, ten years ago, Indomitable swam from a stream through a maze of drainage pipes into the hatchery's rearing pond where he was born.

• • •

Three Victims Of A Duel

The "gin duel' fought by 39-year old/Eugene Cole in bar at Fort Walton Beach, Florida, U. S. A., had a fatal result. They died two days later from alcoholic poisoning: in the course of the duel they consumed about a litre of gin in one hour- When the news reached the bar owner, he died of a heart attack.



President of India Zakir Hussain confers the annual Presidential award for 1967 on Thiagarajan for his monograph "India's population problem—A puzzle and a tussle" while Dr. Nedunchezian naturally looks on proudly since the recipient hails from his state. Recently Sri Y. B. Chavan, Union Minister for Finance presented him with the National Investment and Finance award. Thiagarajan is an asset to the Family Planning people whom he assists with his counsel and withfield work surveys.

From page 5

fering with the free functioning of democratic institutions or hampering the freedom of action of the elected representatives. It has been demonstrated on many occasions that under the system of responsible parliamentary goverment, we are capable of withstanding shocks without impairing stability in any manner. As the President of India so felicitously put it, "while in no way outstepping the limits of his powers under the Constitution, a Governer must consider himself as an active participant in the administration of the affairs of his State. Indeed, his oath of office enjoins on him to devote himself to the service and well-being of the people of his State. Frequent exchange of views between the Governor and his Council of Ministers will enable the Governor to be the best interpreter of the actions of his Government. Such exchange of views will be most fruitful in regard to matters affecting inter-state relations and relations between the Centre and the States. Functioning outside the clash of party or parochial interests, a Governer can be expected to approach these questions dispassionately and in the wider national interst." Even as Chancellor of a Univercity, the Governor is expected to function purposefully and with good effect. The president of India expressed the view that "the non-partisan position of the Governor will vest his advice and his decisions on all aspects of University affairs with an authority free from considerstions of local politics or prtronage."

According to the experience gained so far, different situations have arisen in different States, each having its own peculiar characteristics. Some Governors have faced such delicate and difficult situations to the best of their ability, in spite of carping criticisms. The constitution cannot be expected to contain provision for dealing with such details. No hard and fast rules can be laid down because no two situations are seldom identical, though they may have similarities. The role of a Governer has to be correctly understood when he discharges his responsibility under the Constitusion in any given situation. He has to act according to his best judgement, bearing in mind his duty to maintain traditions of constitutional government.

Difficult situations have arisen in certain States putting the Governor on a trial. Shifting political scenes and changing attitudes create complex and highly intricate situations. It is not only the inter-play of irreconcilable claims of political parties but the uncertainties which sometimes an indecisive population throw up which baffle solutions and tax the abilities of good statesmen and administrators. When the people of a State refuse to give majority to any party, when the unprincipied combination of parties brings about variations in the majority on the floor of the House by either conditional support or withdrawal of support later on, it requires a very cautious aud alert mind to see the truth through the cobweb of complicated circumstances, heightened some times by inspired criticism in the press or sometimes by uninformed remedies suggested in different quarters.

I need not exhaustively cite examples but suffice it to say that Punjab, like some other States, faced difficult situations when the Governor had a tough time. Dr. D.C. Pavate has written a book "My Days as Governor" which I had the pleasure of releasing at Bangalore recently. He has graphically described each situation he had to face. It is a mine of information for anyone interested in understanding typically difficult situations which a Governor is likely to be called upon to handle and which demand mature understanding of the situation, keen insight into the working of the Constitution and deep study of the psychology of the masses and political parties. Any dispassionate reading of the book is bound to lead to the inevitable conclusion that the framers of the Constitution were wise in providing enough elbow room for a wise, sagacious and honest Governor to take independent decisions in the interest of democratic institutions being used for emotional intergration and for meeting legitimate aspirations of honest and able leadetship.

It cannot be denied that the "institution of Governors under our Constitution provides an important unifying influence in Centre State relations. Standing outside the clash of political parties, the Governors can be expected to judge events and problems entirely objectively in the wider spectrum of the political and economic wellbeing of the country as a whole." It is true that political parties functioning in the States and the local administration may know all this equally well. But the point is that Governor can be properly utilised to interpret the needs of the State to the Centre and *vice vesa* at the national level.

We have to evolve healthy conventions and must create a climate for honouring such conventions. Once a Governor gains the confidence of the people of the State, Council of Ministers and political parties that he is a trusted servant of the people and will discharge his constitutional duties with utmost impartiality, I have no doubt that the role of a Governor will assume greater importance and significance. The fact that he has to function in some sort of anonymity and that he cannot utilize the press and the platform for any public debate establishes his position above any controversy. This safeguard ensures his impartiality, and does not make him a silent spectator of what is happening around him.

In non-official life, a Governor has a lot to do. Many social service organizations depend on him for patronage. The Government cannot find adequate resources for all welfare activities. A Governor and his wife are in a position to secure public support for many deserving voluntary efforts. From my own experience I can say with confidence that once there is understanding between the Governor and his Chief Minister and other ministers, even the seeming difficult problems sort out themselves. My scheme for hostels, for poor but intelligent boys and girls for each district is a glorious example.

If a Governor remembers that he has a special role to play in times of emergency under the Constitution and has innumerable and invaluable opportunities of serving the people in a variety of ways, and therefore must not miss any opportunity to know his people and to serve them, he becomes an instrument of understanding and strength to the ministers, State and Centre rather than instrument of intrigue, suspicion and jealousy.

—Address to LYMA, Madras

The Black Gold That Earns Foreign Exchange

By K. P. KRISHNA PILLAI

BUT for the Kerala pepper, Columbus would not have discovered America!

Yes. King Ferdinand of Spain backed the adventurous expedition organised by Columbus, because he believed that Columbus could very well bring back spices, especially pepper, from the far away Malabar Coast of India. Columbus did not take back any pepper in this voyage. But it landed him ultimately on the shores of the New World.

Round about 1880, when Edward VII visited India while he was the Prince of Wales, an imaginative Deputy Collector of Malabar presented him a tray full of ripe pepper vines. The Prince was very happy and cherished it more than all other valuable presents he got from India.

India had conjured up a vision in the minds of foreigners as the land of Maharajas and snake-charmers—also of spices. And black pepper is the spiciest of them all. It was the lure of spices—mainly pepper—that brought many western explorers to the shores of India. But now spices from India travel far and wide to over 80 countries in the world earning valuable foreign exchange.

CRISP, PUNGENT

Pepper is the most important spice in use all over the world. Black pepper, as usual, continues to be the most important item among spices. With an honoured place in the kitchen, pepper gives a new dimension to the culinary art. Its flavour is crisp and penetrating, its pungency is biting. Pepper does more than 'pep' up your dish. It rouses a hearty appetite, helps easy digestion and converts food quickly into energy.

Fresh, green pepper berries also are now exported from India. Packed with brine in tins the berries retain the green colour and give better pungency with extra flavour. At present it is mainly exported to the European countries. But the possibility of increasing the export of this variety of pepper is immense.

Spices have a hoary tradition as a world merchandise, intermingled with legendary history, in which India figures as a prominent producer and exporter. India also consumes a substantial quantity of its production of spices and the consumption is on the increase. The world demand for spices also is steadily increasing. A total of 45 289 tonnes of spices worth more than Rs. 290 5 million were exported from India in 1972–73. The pepper portion of these exports accounted for 19958 tonnes valued at Rs. 143.1 million. The Soviet Union ranked as the top buyer of pepper, followed by U.S.A. In 1972–73, America bought 2606 tonnes of Indian pepper valued at Rs. 18.5 million

In 1973–74, there was a marked increase in the quantity of spices exported as well as value earned. During the year, about 57150 tonnes of spices valued at Rs. 524.7 million were exported. The pepper portion of this export was 30718 tonnes worth about Rs. 289.26 million.

Pepper has been of vital importance to the country's economy and it continues to be so. The world production of pepper is about 120 000 tonnes. Of this India accounts for about 30 per cent, and Kerala produces 95 per cent of the total Indian production. It is essentially a homestead garden crop and more than 80 per cent of pepper production is from such small holdings. Indonesia, Malaysia, Brazil and Ceylon are the other countries producing pepper.

Besides pepper, Cardamom, Chillies, Ginger and Turmeric are the most important of over 30 items of spices exported from India. Blended curry powder is another item in this group which earns a good amount of foreign exchange.

India is now facing stiff competition in the international pepper market. In a recent meeting of the Indian Spices Development Council, its Chairman Mr. M.S.P. Rajes called for earnest efforts to bring down the cost of production of spices in India in order to expand its export trade. This could be achieved through improved methods of cultivation, plant protection and use of high yielding varieties, the Chairman points out He also stressed the urgent need for organised research work on spices under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

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The other normal additional emoluments to which an employee becomee eligible such as normal increments on a time-scale or the increased salary or wages he is entitled to because of promotion etc. are not affected by this ordinance. Nor are honorarium payable for any work done outside office hours and overtime allowance, affected by the ordinance.

The ordinance provides for a scheme under which all these additional emoluments will go into a compulsory deposit to be kept with the Reserve Bank. The additional emoluments accruing from wages and salaries will remain in deposit for a period of one year and 50 per cent of the additional dearness allowance that may be sanctioned hereafter will remain in deposit for two years. These deposits will fetch an interest which will be 2½ per cent more than the maximum bank deposit rate which is now 8½ per cent. This means that these deposits will earn an interest of 11 per cent now. These deposits will be tax free and at the end of the prescribed period will be repaid in five annual instalments along with the interest.

NOT A REVENUE YIELDING MEASURE

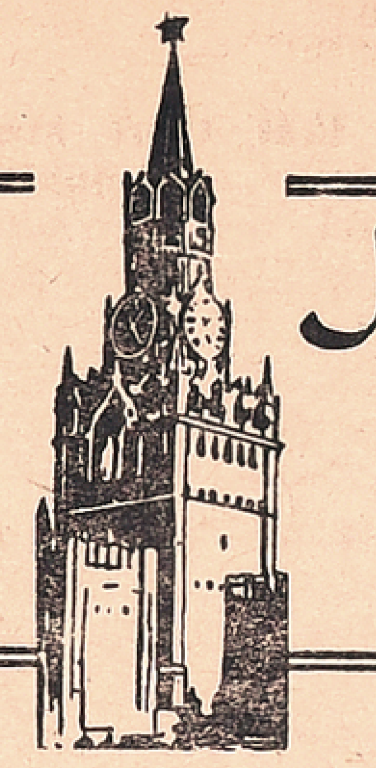
The point to be noticed is that this amount is not proposed to be utilised by Government. As such the Government is not taking away this amount for it to spend. It only impounds the money from further circulation and for the period during which it is thus impounded, Government is going to pay interest from out of its pocket. In other words, the operation of the scheme only entails additional expenditure for the Government and does not secure for it additional resource. This point should make it clear that what is sought is only a curb on the availability of money supply so that the phenomenon of too much money chasing too few goods is corrected.

The second ordinance tackles money receipts from out of the taxed profits distributed by the companies. This is generally known as dividends, distributed to share-holders of the company every year. The ordinance prescribes a ceiling on the amount of dividends that the companies can declare. The maximum distributable profits will be only 33⅓ per cent of the net profits of the company or 12 per cent dividend on the face value of the equity shares of the company, whicheverr is less. This ceiling is to be in force for two years. The money thus impounded will be available for the company to expand its production, a factor imperative in the fight against inflation.

OTHER SECTORS TOO TO BE TACKLED

As the Finance Minister made it clear at the Consultative Committee meeting on the 6th July, 1974, Government are

(Contd. on page 10)



Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

DEVELOPMENT OF ATOMIC POWER ENGINEERING IN INDIA

"IN India, water resources vary considerably according to season, and so, atomic power stations are the most reliable sources of electricity," says Mr. Nikolai Koltsov, TASS Commentator in an article stressing India's power resources.

Self-sufficiency in the production of equipment for the country's atomic power stations, he says, is one of the prime aims of the Indian Government. The leading role in this is given to the major producer of heavy electrical equipment — The Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL).

It may be recalled that four big enterprises including the Heavy Electrical Equipment Plant in Hardwar, are functioning already within the frame work of BHEL and that the Hardwar Plant was built with Soviet assistance. Besides manufacturing sophisticated equipment for atomic electric stations the corporation also draws up major projects in this highly promising branch of power generation.

The Atomic Energy Commission of India recently worked out a plan for building atomic power stations in the country. This 15-year plan sets the task of increasing the design capacity of atomic power plants to 5,720 thousand kilowatts by 1989. This is rather a substantial figure considering that the generating capacities of all of India's electric stations in the 1973–74 fiscal year, slightly exceeded 18 million kilowatts.

* * *

FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER IN MOSCOW

The process of detente set in motion by L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee is in full swing and the present official visit of the French Foreign Minister Mr. Jean Sauvagnargues should be considered part of that process. He arrived in Moscow on the 11th inst.

Speaking at a dinner given in his honour, the Soviet Foreign Minister Mr. Andrei Gromyko said, "our talks proceed in an atmosphere of friendliness and mutual understanding and reaffirm the wish on both sides to seek for, and find a common language".

Referring to the international situation Mr. Gromyko said, "today favourable moves are in motion on the world scene, which confirm the viability of the line towards relaxation of tensions and cooperation. The aftermaths of the third meeting between the leaders of the USSR and the USA represented a sizable contribution to further relaxation of tensions. Not only do these aftermaths accord with the interests of the two powers, but also those of the two powers, but also those of consolidation of world peace".

On Soviet — French relations he said, "In the course of the present negotiations the sides have established that on many major issues which leave their mark on the situation in the world today, the Soviet Union and France continue to preserve the similarity of approaches. The Soviet Union advocates active continuation of the faithful practice of political cooperation with France in the interests of both countries, consolidation of peace and security in Europe and the world over.

The French Foreign Minister in his reply said that his Government attached great importance to the French-Soviet co-operation which they regarded as an important element of their foreign policy. He noted that there had been tremendous progress in all spheres of life in the Soviet Union in the recent years. The Soviet Union was having marvellous prospects lying ahead. Friendship between the Soviet Union and France allows to look into the furture with great hope, he stressed.

* * *

ONE OF THE "TALL SHIP"

The USSR has entered the three-masted barque "Tovarishch" (Comrade) 1,762 tons, in this month's classic Tall Ships Race. A Training ship for merchant seamen. "Tovarishch" has covered about 200,000 miles.

In 1957–58 she circumnavigated Africa. She has three oceans and 14 seas behind her. And more than 6,000 students have sailed aboard her from 12 schools of seamenship.

They are fully maintained by the state while aboard, and also receive an allowance. While training, they are also taught physics, chemistry, maths, social sciences, foreign languages and even art appreciation.

The "Tovarishch" is 240 feet long and 40 feet in beam, with a total sail area of more than 18,000 square feet. Skippered by Oleg Vandenko, she will have a crew of 176, of whom 127 are students of the Odessa Higher Maritime School.

Why still train young seamen under sail.

"Aboard the "Tovarishch" the rolling is more perceptible, the waves are nearer, and even the wind seems stronger " says Captain Vandenko. "That's what may await any novice at sea. Let him try himself out in these conditions, test correctness of his choice of profession

"Another reason : it is absolutely essential for the youngsters to undergo physical toughening. Service before the mast requires great physical effort.

They'll certainly need plenty of physical effort in the Tall ship Race, where they encounter more than 2,000 youngsters from 16 countries, including Poland, Yugoslavia and the German Democratic Republic.

The trophy and medals for the winning crew will be presented by Prince Philip at a ceremony at Southsea on August 3. The ships then cross the channel for a parade at St. Malo on August 4.

* * *

SAVING THE RABBIT FROM THE MOWERS

Have you watched them haymaking or cutting a cornfield? Have you watched rabbits, hares foxes trapped by the remorseless combine-harvester, making a run for it?

You may have laughed—but not every hare or rabbit makes it to safety. Many are killed by the machines.

In the USSR it has been calculated that up to ten times as many hares die in this way as the total killed by hunters.

Now officials of the Zavidov Nature Reserve have suggested a simple way to prevent these unnecessary killings.

The Wild Life Protection Board has proposed that mowing should advance from the side of the field opposite forest and bush, which gives the animals a chance to escape.

Better still, they suggest that the harvesting machine should operate from the centre of each field, gradually working out to the edge.

When an area of 1,000 acres was mowed by this technique the only casualty was one bird.

SUPERFLUOUS

"What about the thirty shillings you owe me ?"

"Quite all right it's your birthday next Sunday and I'm going to bring it to you with my congratulations."

"You just bring the money and I'll congratulate myself.

Tit-Bits On Men And Matters

By T. NEELAKANTAN

(General Knowledge Agency)

DR. C. R. REDDY AND THE CONVOCATION ADDRESS.

Dr. C. R. Reddy, who was a distinguished Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University, delivered Convocation Addresses at many Universities. He once accepted to deliver the Convocation Address of an University but unfortunately forgot all about it. Generally Convocation Addrsses are prepared with great care, fairly in advance, and they are printed for distribution. Only a short time before the Convocation, Dr. Reddy came to know of his engagement. As there was no time, Dr. Reddy delivered an extempore speech at the Convocation. After the function was over, he sent the following telegram to his Personal Assistant: "Delivered. Baby and mother safe". Dr. Reddy was a bachelor and his Personal Assistant was not able to understand the telegram. When Dr. Reddy returned after the Convocation, his P. A requested him to explain the meaning of the telegram. Dr. Reddy said:— "I delivered the Convocation Address. My speech (Baby) was very much appreciated and I (Mother) was warmly congratulated."

GANDHIJI AND BISHOP FISHER

One day Gandhiji and Bishop Fisher of America were talking on non-violence. Gandhiji, holding the Bishop's strong and determined chin in his hand, said: 'Just imagine a man of action like yours, talking about peace." The Bishop replied, equally humorously:—"And what will people think of a pacifist like you, with two front teeth missing. You look as if you have just been in a brawl". On hearing this, Gandhiji had a hearty laugh in which the Bishop also joined.

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AND THE UNTOUCHABLE.

Swami Vivekananda after his return to India from America, went to the Khetri State. There, a large number of people met him and talked to him. He had no rest for three days and nights and had no time to eat even. An untouchable who was watching all these, approached him and said:— "Swamiji, you have not taken any food for these three days. I shall bring flour and other materials. Will you please cook your food and eat?". Highly appreciating his kindness, Swamiji said: "Why should you bring flour and other materials. Why not you bring me cooked food yourself?". He replied:—" Swamiji, I am an untouchable. The Maharajah will be angry if I do so". Saying that no such thing would happen, Swamiji asked him to bring the cooked food from his home. The untouchable brought cooked food from his home and Swamiji ate it with great relish. When the Maharajah met him, Swamiji told him about this incident. The Maharajah was highly pleased and he gave that untouchable lands out of appreciation.

MRS. PEARL S. BUCK ON PANDIT NEHRU.

Mrs. Pearl S. Buck was such a talented writer that the Nobel Prize for Literature was awarded to her in 1938. She was a great friend of India and an admirer of leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. She once said:— "There are a few peeple in each century of human life, who affect the lives of us all. Such a one is Jawaharlal Nehru". This is a great tribute, to a great man, from a great lady.

NAPOLEON ON SPIRIT AND THE SWORD

At the height of his success in wars, that great military genius Napoleon Bonaparte said:— "There are only two powers in the world. Those powers are the spirit and the Sword. In the long run, the Sword will always be conquered by the Spirit". This is what the great thinkers of the world have been telling in the past. This is what our Gandhiji too was telling, day in and day out. If all the leaders and the peoples of the world believe in this golden truth, there will be peace and prosperity everywhere.

BANK OR CHURCH

One day an elderly woman went to the Bank of England and presented a bundle of loan coupons. The Bank official asked her:" Madam, is this for conversion or redemption?" The elderly woman replied: "Young man, is this the Bank of England or the Church of England?"

ABRAHAM LINCOLN ON LONG LEGS

Mr. Abraham Lincoln, who was one of the greatest Presidents of America, was a tall man with long legs. A friend of his once asked him, in a humorous way, as to how long should a man's legs be. Equally humorously, Mr. Lincoln replied:-"Long enough to reach from his body to the ground."

JAM SAHEB OF NAWANAGAR

Jam Saheb Ranjit Singh of Nawanagar was a great cricketeer. He achieved international fame for his skill in the game. While paying tributes to him once, Mr. A. G. Gardiner said:- "And so, hats off to the Jam Saheb—the Prince of a little State but the king of a great game."

From page

conscious that there are other sections of the community, not yet covered by the scope of these two ordinances. The very large section of self-employed people, like doctors, lawyers, etc. falls in this category. They must also make their due contribution towards strengthening this effort. Government, Shri Chavan has pointed out, are now actively engaged in formulating a scheme covering these sections of the community. The details of this scheme also have been announced.

There is no denying the fact that these two ordinances by themselves constitute a very stringent package. But what the country is facing now is really a grave emergency. The traditional methods of neutralising price index by giving increased dearness allowance cannot go on for ever. Apart from its proved ineffectiveness even as a palliative, this has continuously imposed severe strains on the financial resources of the Government. For example, on the basis of the existing consumer price index, the Central and the State Governments and the public sector enterprises together will be called upon in the current year to pay to their employees approximately Rs. 575 crores by way of additional dearness allowance. Taking into account payments likely to be made in the private organised sector for additional dearness allowance, the total bill on this account alone will be of the order of Rs. 900 crores in current year. In the existing difficult financial situation, payment of such a large amount will have disastrous impact on the already strained price-levels and will further aggravate the inflationary situation. To the extent to which these two ordinances control the money supply, to that extent they will contribute towards the stabilisation of the economy, which ultimately is in the interest of all sections of the community, especially the wage earner.

NO WAGE FREEZE

One misapprehension about these ordinances has to be effectively cleared straightaway. Other countries e. g. Britain and the U S. have, as part of their anti-inflationary measures, resorted to what is called a "wage freeze". Under this, all increments in wages and salaries are frozen at a particular point for a given period. During this period, when the wage freeze is in operation, no one will get more than what he had before. It is a blanket ban. There is no exception. In this background, it will be seen that what is sought to be achieved by these two ordinances is not a "wage freeze." Normal increments on a fixed time-scale are beyond the purview of the ordinance. Increase in wages and salaries as a result of promotions etc. are also similarly unaffected. Even increased dearness allowance that becomes payable because of a higher cost of living index, is also partially unaffected because only 50 per cent of the additional dearness allowance is sought to be impounded and the other 50 per cent is available for the employee to meet his rising expenses. Thus to describe the present measure as a "wage freeze" is far-fetched.

All that is intended is that a part of the incremental spending power will not be available for current consumption. Instead, this will be immobilised temporarily in a savings account fetching an attractive rate of interest. In other words, during the period when there is a precipitous erosion of all savings, this is a compulsory method of facilitating some savings for the rainy day. The money that is not available in the hands of the wage earner for spending, he will not spend. Thus what is impounded he saves It is thus a blessing in disguise.

What is more, the Finance Minister has also made it clear that Government has no intention whatsover of interfering with the normal processes of wage negotiations, Government are also committed to ensure that in those sectors, where the wage rates are at present very low, the ordinances should not come in the way of giving necessary relief.

DUTY OF TRADE UNIONS

Workers' Organisations and Trade Unions owe it a duty to explain to their members the real purpose that is sought to de achieved by these measures. It is a bitter pill; but in the context of the deeper disease that has to be fought, it is but an essential remedy.

In emergencies like the one confronting us all, there is need for an all-out effort to meet the challenge. What has been done is only an initial but an effective step towards stabilising prices. To an extent the pressure of demand on the availability of essential articles will abate the growth of money supply will be partially curbed. But the struggle has to be waged on many other fronts. Hoarding has to be discouraged; there is to be an increase in the supply of essential commodities and what is by far more important, it must be ensured that what his available is equitably distributed. It is the firm intention of the Government to maintain the public distribution system for supply of foodgrains and to strengthen it in the case of other essential commodities. It is in this task that the active and whole-hearted co-operation of every one is called for. With confidence in our destiny, there is no reason why the nation should not come out successfully from the current economic challenge facing it.

Before being dispatched, each instrument is going through a thorough checkup.

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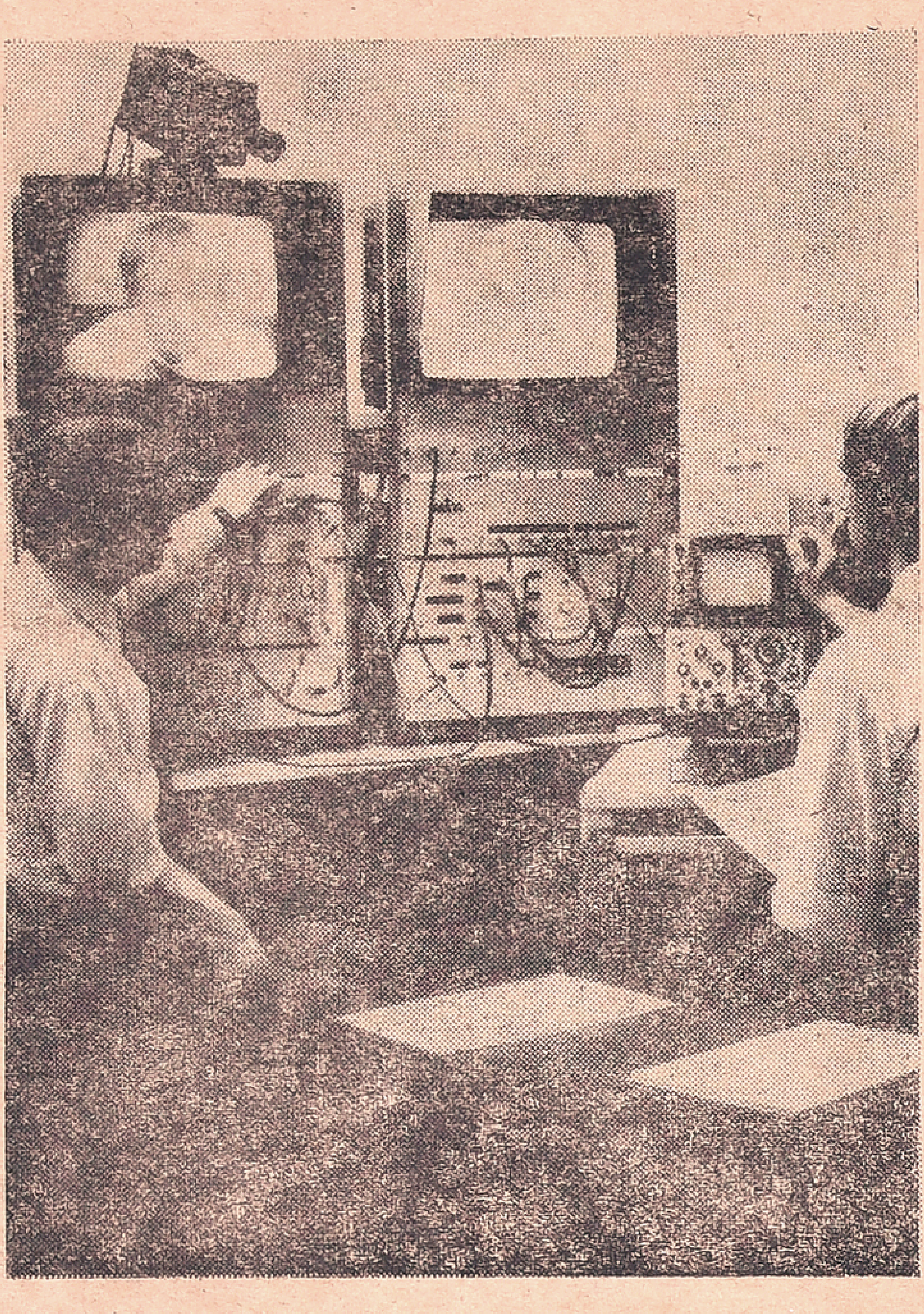
we had in the whold of the last year."

"After L.I. Brezhnev's visit to India, which we followed very attentively, our contacts with India expanded very rapidly, and there is every likelihood of further expansion.

Equipment designed for India and other tropical countries need a special approach. The climatic conditions there have to be taken into consideration before doing any manufacturing.

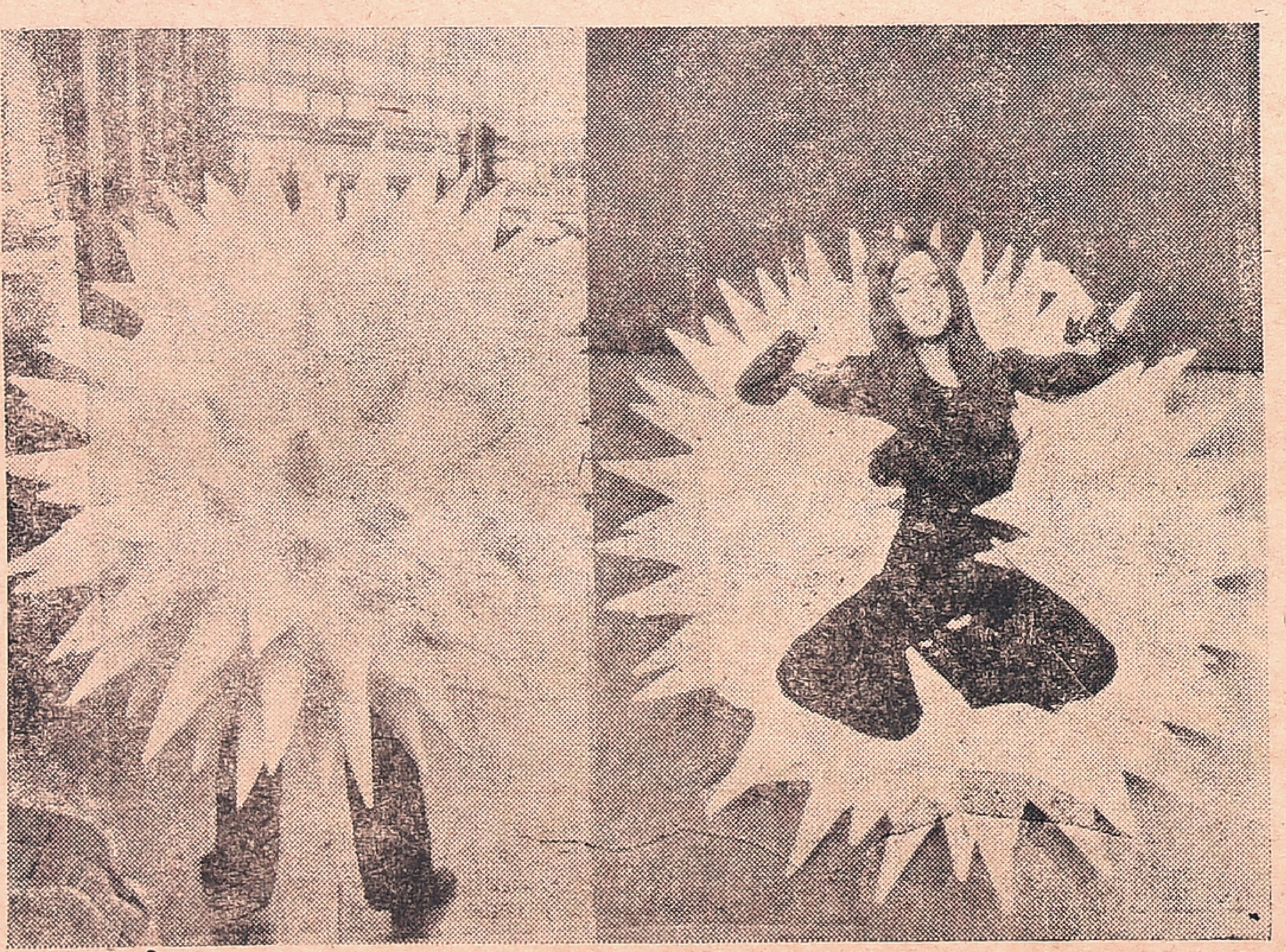
They have developed a new design for a speadometer, found a new coating for galvanic instruuents, improved the quality of rubber and solved a lot of problems connected with India's tropical climate.

They have never heard a complaint about the quality of their produ ts.



Hamburg (DaD)—Future videophone systems will probably be based on digital transalsmion. This calls for a substantial bandwidth, the data needing to be transmitted at a rate of seventy megabits a second to result in a picture of TV quality. This is why AEC-Telefunken, at their laboratories in Ulm, Federal Republic of Germany, are experimenting with bit-rate compression.

The data flow is reduced by a fifth, a newly developed relevance detector determining the crucial signals for transmission, The monitors here seen at the laboratory demontrate the process. On the left is the finished product, on the right the skeleton image as flashed from subscriber to subcriber. The detection work is then left to the videophone decoder.



Cologne (DaD)-This year's international furniture fair in Cologne, Federal Republic of Germany, was a far greater sales success for 1,261 exhibitors from 32 countries than had been expected. Eastern European exhibitors seemed to be particularly satisfied with the international links they forged and orders they booked. There was record demand for inexpensive goods, the trade fearing a substantial increase in prices in the course of the year.

Tastes appear to be changing. Wood is now preferred to plastic and black is "in." A kitchen designed by Paris couturier Pierre Cardin for a Dutch exhibitor was black. Hamburg designer Gunther Beckmann exhibited a bed with four-leg independent suspension. This intriguing white imitation leather chair is also a Beckmann model

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